



Please find attached my application for the job of assistant manager.



"So, tell me why you've applied for this job?"

## Presentation

"Nominalization" is when you form nouns from other parts of speech, especially from verbs and adjectives. We often use nominalization in more formal texts (e.g., reports, emails or letters, formal presentations).

### Verb → noun nominalization

*I applied for the job. → Please find attached my application for the job.*

*Did you receive my letter? → Please acknowledge receipt of this letter.*

### Adjective → noun nominalization

*I'm pleased by your interest. → I would like to express my pleasure at your interest.*

*We were disappointed by the decision. → The decision was a great disappointment to us all.*

Note: When we nominalize, we often add a preposition after the noun such as *receipt of*, *appreciation for*.

### Other types of nominalization

We can use nouns to replace relative clauses with pronouns such as *who*, *when*, *why*, *what*, and *where*.  
*I don't know why they didn't come. → I don't know the reason for their absence.*

*Can you tell where you are? → Can you tell me your location?*

*I can't remember when it happened. → I can't remember the occasion.*

*Does the journalist know who did it? → Does the journalist know the identity of the person?*

*I couldn't tell you how it was done. → I couldn't tell you the method that was used.*

*I don't know what the movie is about. → I don't know the plot of the movie.*

## Exercises

## 1 Nominalize these words by writing the noun form. Use a dictionary to help you, if necessary.

1 complain (v)	..... (n)	7 admire (v)	..... (n)
2 receive (v)	..... (n)	8 collect (v)	..... (n)
3 grateful (adj)	..... (n)	9 refer (v)	..... (n)
4 generous (adj)	..... (n)	10 achieve (v)	..... (n)
5 fashionable (adj)	..... (n)	11 intend (v)	..... (n)
6 inspire (v)	..... (n)	12 enthusiastic (adj)	..... (n)

## 2 Rewrite the first sentences making the word in bold into a noun.

- 1 I **refer** to your letter dated the first of January ...  
With **reference** to ..... your letter dated the first of January ...
- 2 Blues and greens are **fashionable** this spring.  
Blues and greens are ..... this spring.
- 3 Everyone is **supportive** about your new plan.  
Your new plan has ..... everyone.
- 4 I don't **intend** to change.  
I have no ..... changing.
- 5 Thank you for being so **generous**.  
I really appreciate .....
- 6 He **inspires** so many young people.  
He's ..... to so many young people.
- 7 They **collect** stamps from all over the world.  
They are ..... from all over the world.
- 8 Two customers **complained** about your behavior this week.  
We've had two ..... your behavior this week.

## 3 Rewrite the question using the nouns in parentheses.

- 1 I don't know why they've changed the rules again. (reasons for)  
I don't know .....
- 2 Can you tell me where he works? (location / company)  
Can you tell me .....
- 3 I can't remember when their anniversary is. (date)  
I can't remember .....
- 4 Does anyone know who committed the crime? (identify / criminal)  
Does anyone .....
- 5 I don't know what the novel is about. (story)  
I don't know .....